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SUBJECT: RESONSE TO DEPARTMENT COMMENTS ON VIETNAM FY 2007  
MP

REF: A. STATE 58484 B. MOELING/DEHMLow EMAILS

1. (U) SUMMARY: Post as reviewed the suggestions in ref A and made several revisions to the FY-07 Mission Performance Plan. In most cases, Post accepted Washington's suggestions. END SUMMARY.

#### Brief Overview and COMStatement

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2. (U) Post appreciates the comments on the brief overview and has simplified the personnel section to make it easier to read. This has required sacrificing some detail.

3. (U) The Chief of Mission Statement has been revised, per RefTel recommendations, to incorporate POW/MIA issues; describe increases in Foreign Operations spending requests; and, explain the replacement of the RS goalpaper with Trade and Investment. Regarding the inclusion of POW/MIA staff in the Mission Performance Plan, it is our considered position that JPAC Detachment Two functions as an integrated part of this Mission, and that it is not possible to make a realistic strategic plan without considering the personnel, policy and resource impact represented by JPAC Detachment Two. Consequently, we will continue to list JPAC in our MPP.

#### Goalpapers

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4. (U) RefTel asked why secondary school enrollment was chosen as a performance indicator in goalpaper one (economic growth and development). The strategic goal we are working towards in this area includes equitable distribution of economic benefits. The success of public education is directly related to a country's economic development and growth and its ability to distribute the benefits of that growth equitably. Secondary school enrollment rates are one way to measure the health of the public education system; this metric is also used in assessing the International Development Goals of the Millennium Declaration (the so-called "Millennium Development Goals.") We incorporated causal factors into this goalpaper related to improvements in the corruption index.

5. (U) The Department of Labor does not have a representative in Vietnam; the labor portfolio is handled by the Economic Section. Therefore we opted not to list DOL as an action office on any of the tactics in the MPP. Regarding the Mission's listing of position requests as tactics in the MPP, after consultation with RM (ref B) we have decided to retain these references. Post understands that listing position requests as tactics within goalpapers will not have an effect on Washington's decision to support those position requests. To strengthen that argument, we have refined and rewritten some of our position descriptions in Table C and revised the COM statement. Our retention of the position requests within the body of the goalpapers (in the tactics section) is to improve the MPP's usefulness to the Mission as an internal planning document as well as a monitoring and evaluation tool.

¶16. (U) Thank you for your recommendations regarding goalpaper two (human rights). We have made an adjustment to the performance indicator.

¶17. (U) Post accepts reftel A recommendation on changing the wording of the performance goal in the third goalpaper (global health). In response to DOL's question about the focus of our efforts, this goalpaper reflects interagency consensus regarding the best approach to the HIV/AIDS problem in Vietnam: focusing on intravenous drug users (most of whom are men) and commercial sex workers.

¶18. (U) We revised goalpaper four (mutual understanding) to clarify the purpose of American Corners in accordance with reftel A request.

¶19. (SBU) The Mission determined this year that Trade and Investment, separate from Economic Growth and Development, represents a priority goal requiring substantial attention and resources. There are significant linkages between the two goals, and we have adjusted the linkage sections of both papers to ensure they are communicated effectively. The replacement of the Regional Security goalpaper with the Trade and Investment goalpaper in the FY 2007 MPP reflects the reality that a robust program of real bilateral security cooperation still remains a medium-to-long-term goal with relatively little chance of success in the short term, while increasing trade and investment is both a current reality and a prerequisite for progress in our other priority areas, notably Human Rights, Mutual Understanding and Economic

Growth and Development. This change does not reflect a reduction in the Mission's efforts to expand security cooperation.

¶10. (U) We revised our statement of the performance goal in goalpaper six (visas/homeland security) so that it represents an end state rather than a description of our current efforts, but declined Washington's suggestion that repatriation of Vietnamese nationals be included in the performance goal. As stated in the COM statement, the constraints of the MPP process prevent us from including in the MPP every activity the Mission carries out; instead, we have focused our efforts on the areas where we are devoting the most resources for the most potential gain in the timeframe of this MPP. The repatriation issue does not meet that threshold. We also declined to revise our priorities in line with CA's suggestion that adoptions be elevated higher than visas in accordance with adoptions' higher profile with the general public. It is the Mission's position that effective visa services and homeland security are a higher priority than facilitating adoptions by American citizens, a position supported by the profile of resources devoted to both issues.

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